

PUBLIC INFORMATION STATEMENT
NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE RALEIGH NC
800 AM EST SUN MAR 04 2012

SEVERE WEATHER AWARENESS WEEK IN NORTH CAROLINA
MARCH 04 - MARCH 10

...Statewide Tornado Drill scheduled for Wednesday, March 7 at 930 AM...

Governor Bev Perdue in conjunction with the National Weather Service and the North Carolina Department of Public Safety has declared this week as Severe Weather Awareness week for 2012. All week long the National Weather Service will be issuing informative messages to help you prepare for severe weather.

Each day will cover a different topic. Monday will define severe thunderstorms. Tuesday we will cover lightning. Wednesday's topic will be tornadoes. Thursday we will talk about flooding...and Friday...the alert process.

On Wednesday...March 7th at 930 am...the National Weather Service in cooperation with local broadcasters will conduct a statewide tornado drill in the form of a Required Monthly Test on all NOAA weather radio and public alert systems. The alarm test will activate the State Emergency Alert System and be carried by local radio broadcasters. This will allow schools...business...and residents the opportunity to practice their tornado drills and enact safety plans.

The numerous severe weather events of the past year, including the deadly tornado outbreak of April 16, 2011, the Davidson and Randolph County tornadoes of November 16, 2011, and the recent tornadoes that affected Rutherford, Burke, and Caldwell counties on January 11, 2012, emphasizes the severe weather risks that North Carolinians face. Everyone across North Carolina should use this week to think about what to do when threatened by lightning...hail...flooding...and tornadoes. Thunderstorms bring a variety of threats...and knowing how to protect you and your family's lives is important.

Use this week to discuss safety at work and with your children or students. Talk about your severe weather plans...where to take shelter and practice taking refuge in a hall closet or bathroom. Setting aside a few moments this week to talk about severe weather safety with your co-workers and family may one day save your life and theirs.